

Unit makes the grade with IG

It is Wednesday, Oct. 9 and we are still in the middle of our Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI). This past weekend the unit came together as a real team to demonstrate our ability to mobilize our people and equipment for war. It took a tremendous amount of effort by everyone to prepare for this Initial Response (IR) inspection, but you did it and did it as good as it can be done.

The IG hasn't released the final grade, but the initial reports are nothing short of fantastic. Across the board, inspectors are saying "best seen" and making comments like "flawless" and it doesn't get any better than that. We, as a wing, developed an Installation Deployment Plan (IDP) that was designed to work for all types and sizes of deployments. It had been working very well as an evolving process during the past few years and the preparation for this inspection brought together all the details and ideas into a process that you can all be proud of. It worked like a charm!

But more than that, it was the



Leadership Perspectives Col. Richard Green

individual and collective efforts of everyone, working together with a "can do" attitude that carried the day. The grade isn't important, although I'm sure it will be very good. What is important is that we are ready. World

events certainly would indicate that a time might come in the near future when we will be implementing our plan for real. Being ready is the first step to accomplishing whatever our mission might be and returning home safely.

Each of you should be proud of the part you played in demonstrating our readiness. It was a team effort, and "Together...We Succeeded." Although we succeeded as a team, I would like to recognize Maj. Chris Salvucci for his leadership as our XPL. His attention to every detail, professionalism and endless hours of work was an inspiration to us all. He was certainly helped by many others in his office and throughout the base, whose names I will not list because I wouldn't know how to stop. It is the "Above and Beyond" effort of people like Chris that makes our unit special. You know who they are because they're all around us. They're pro's who care and do what it takes to get the job done. So, congratulations and thanks for a job well done!

Armed Forces Day is past, but the history continues

By: Chief Bruce Durr
179th Security Forces

For the past 10 years we have all heard a lot about, and even a few of us have personally experienced, joint military operations. Although Armed Forces Day is over for this year and Veterans Day is quickly approaching, many of us rarely take the time to understand the meaning and significance of the day we celebrate in May year after year. To understand the history of this day is to understand the beginning of what we know of today as the Total Force concept.

On August 31, 1949, Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson announced the creation of Armed Forces Day to replace separate Navy, Army and Air Force Days. The single day celebration

stemmed from the unification of the armed forces under one department, now known as the Department of Defense.

In a speech announcing the formation of the day, President Truman "praised the work of the military services at home and abroad." He said, "It is vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desired peace." In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation dated Feb. 27, 1950, Truman wrote, "Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, towards the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the forces of our land, sea and air defense."

The theme of the first Armed Forces Day was "Teamed for Defense." It was chosen as a means of expressing the unification of all the military forces under a single department of the government. Armed Forces Day is also meant to educate the civilian population about the Armed Forces. It provides a public understanding of what type of duties the military performs and also is used to display state of the art equipment in parades and other shows.

Armed Forces Day is celebrated annually on the third Saturday of May. Armed Forces Week begins on the second Saturday of May and ends on the third Sunday of May, the day after Armed Forces Day.